

It is evident, therefore, that very low relative humidities occur principally in April and occasionally in February and March. Saturated air occurs mostly in the cold season, with a maximum of 28 days during December, 1879. The monthly means of relative humidity attain their maximum, 84.2, in 1879 and the minimum, 74.4, in 1893. The maximum humidity occurs in December and diminishes continually until April. The year 1879 was remarkable as having seven months during which the humidity was the maximum on record. The lowest monthly mean was 51.6 during the great drought of April, 1893.

#### THE GUANGO, OR RAIN TREE.

Mr. Fred. Turner, Fellow of the Linnean Society, communicates to the Daily Telegraph, Sydney, N. S. W., of May 27, a short article on the rain tree, or guango, of Australia. He says that during the past 30 years few trees have received more attention than this from both scientific and practical men. At one time and another, writers have recommended its extensive cultivation in the drier parts of the world in order to provide moisture and make the desert blossom as the rose. Its botanical name is *Pithecolobium saman*, Benth.; it is indigenous to Brazil and Central America, but is now raised successfully in many other regions, and is a beautiful umbrageous tree of remarkably quick growth. Mr. Turner states that he has raised more than 300 seedlings in the Botanic Gardens of Brisbane, Queensland. As the latitude of Brisbane is about

27° 30' S., on the northeast coast of Australia, it would seem, at first thought, as though this tree would flourish in the analogous climates that we have on the southeast coast of the United States, especially the coasts of Georgia, Florida, and Texas, but Mr. David Fairchild, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, states that several experiments at introduction have not met with decided success. Turner states that he has planted the guango in various soils and situations and they made remarkable growth during the summer months, especially after the January rains, but the leaves fell off at the approach of winter and the plants died down to within two inches of the ground. Southern Queensland was too cold, but northern Queensland, corresponding to our Florida, was fairly well adapted. The fruit consists of four to eight seeds, embedded in a saccharine pulpy matter very pleasant to the taste; the mature seed pods are largely used as feed for stock. They are of a light brown color, about a quarter of an inch thick, and from six to ten inches long.

Of course the readers of the REVIEW do not need to be told that trees will not provide moisture or bring rain, but on the one hand such trees as the guango may be helpful in draining wet lands, and, on the other hand, the cool, moist air settling down from their leaves during the nighttime may provide a local condition that will make it possible for certain plants to grow in their neighborhood, that would otherwise be killed by the heat and the dry air.

#### THE WEATHER OF THE MONTH.

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##### PRESSURE.

The distribution of mean atmospheric pressure is graphically shown on Chart VIII and the average values and departures from normal are shown in Tables I and V.

The mean pressure for the month was high generally east of the Mississippi River, except in the greater part of New England and northern New York, with values ranging from 29.95 to 29.99 inches; it was also high on the north Pacific coast where the values ranged from 29.95 to 30.07 inches, the crest overlying the mouth of the Columbia River. The mean pressure for the month was low over the southern and middle Plateau and the western portions of the southern and middle slope regions, the minimum values, ranging from 29.71 to 29.75 inches, being reported from Arizona and southern Utah.

The mean pressure for the month was above the normal in extreme western Texas and southeastern New Mexico, and, as a rule, along the northern border from Lake Huron westward to the Pacific coast; elsewhere the pressure was below the average. Positive departures ranging from +.05 to +.07 inch occurred in western South Dakota and southeastern Montana; negative departures ranging from -.05 to -.08 inch occurred in southern Florida, west-central Colorado, Utah, and north-central California.

The mean pressure increased from that of May, 1905, in the Mississippi, lower Missouri, and Rio Grande valleys, and the southern slope and north Pacific regions; elsewhere the mean pressure decreased. As a rule the increases were slight, the greatest, +.06 inch, occurring in central Texas, while over eastern Montana, northern Utah, interior California generally, and southwestern Arizona, the decreases ranged from -.05 to -.10 inch.

##### TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR.

The mean temperature for the month was below normal in New England, Middle Atlantic States, Lake region generally, North Dakota, northern slope and northern Plateau regions, the western portions of the middle and southern Plateau regions, the Pacific districts, along the south Atlantic coast, and extreme southern Florida; elsewhere it was above the normal.

The greatest negative departures ranged from -4.0° to -5.0° and occurred over central New England, western North Dakota, and southwestern Idaho. The greatest positive departures ranged from +2.0° to +2.8° and occurred over northwestern Arkansas, western Missouri, southern Kansas, Oklahoma, and southeastern Colorado.

The temperature was 10°, or more, below the normal generally over New England on the 7th, 8th, 20th, 21st, and 27th; over the lower Lake region on the 27th; upper Lake region on the 26th and 27th; over the northern portion of the Missouri Valley on the 18th, 21st, 22d, 24th, 25th, and 26th, and over the central portion on the 27th; northern slope, 16th, 17th, 18th, 23d, 24th, and 25th; North Dakota, 10th, and 15-24th, inclusive; and northern Plateau, 27th. The temperature was 10°, or more, above the normal generally over the lower Lake region on the 18th; upper Mississippi Valley, 4th and 5th; Missouri Valley, 3d, 4th, and 5th; northern slope, 1st, 2d, and 3d; North Dakota, 2d, 3d, and 4th; and middle slope, 3d, 4th, and 5th.

The mean temperature for the month was as low as any June since the establishment of the station at Flagstaff, Ariz., Independence and San Francisco, Cal.; 1° lower than any June recorded at Eastport, Me., and Modena, Utah; and 3° lower at Mount Tamalpais, Cal.

The maximum temperature was as high as any recorded during June at Hatteras, N. C., and the minimum as low as any June recorded at Block Island, R. I., Richmond, Va., and Tampa, Fla., and at Portland, Me., 1° lower than any previous June recorded.

Maximum temperatures of 100°, or higher, were reported from west-central Kentucky, central Missouri, southwestern Kansas, western Oklahoma, northeastern and southwestern New Mexico, west-central Texas, southern and western Arizona, the interior of southern California, north-central Louisiana, and south-central Arkansas.

Freezing temperatures were confined to extreme northern States and the western mountain regions.

The average temperatures for the several geographic districts and the departures from the normal values are shown in the following table: